

Message Text

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71

ACTION SY-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

RSC-01 INR-10 CIAE-00 /067 W

----- 016932

R 220808Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3932

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AFSP

SUBJECT: MARINE SECURITY GUARDS, VIETNAM

FOR A/SY/FO FROM RSO

1. PURSUANT TO DISCUSSIONS WITH DALTON AND COL. KOETHE, MISSION WILL MODIFY THE STRUCTURE OF SUBJECT PROGRAM FROM A COMPANY OF 152 ENLISTED MARINES AND 4 OFFICERS TO A DETACHMENT OF 56 ENLISTED AND 1 OFFICER AT SAIGON; AND 5-MAN DETACHMENTS AT THE FOUR CONGENS, ALL UNDER COMPANY "C", HONG KONG.

2. THE WAR IN VIETNAM CONTINUES. THE VC, NVA, AND OTHER VDISSIDENT GROUPS COULD LAUNCH ATTACKS AT ANY TIME. IN ARRIVING AT THE ABOVE PLAN, WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THOSE FACTORS. OUR APPROACH HAS BEEN TO EVALUATE (1) THE NUMBER OF WATCHSTANDERS REQUIRED TO REALISTICALLY AND ROUTINELY PROTECT CLASSIFIED AND PROPERTY; (2) NUMBER OF MARINES REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ON-GOING DEFENSE TO SENSITIVE/CRITICAL INSTALLATIONS IF ATTACKED WITH OR WITHOUT WARNING; AND (3) NUMBER REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A REACTION CAPABILITY TO LIMITED ATTACKS. WE ALSO INCLUDED IN THESE CONSIDERATIONS THE SPECIFIC DEFENSIVE AREAS WHICH WOULD BE MARINE RESPONSIBILITY AND THOSE AREAS TO BE PROTECTED BY VIETNAMESE NATIONAL POLICE, ARVN, OR LOCAL GUARDS. WE HAVE ALSO ATTEMPTED TO BE REALISTIC IN SUBSTITUTING OTHER AMERICAN CONTROLS WHERE POSSIBLE, AS RELATED TO DAILY OPERATIONS. THE RESULTS ARE A MIXTURE OF 24 AND 12 HOUR POSTS WHICH ADDRESS AND RECOGNIZE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SERIOUSNESS OF THE CURRENT AND PROJECTED SITUATION HERE; BUT

CONCOMITANTLY RECOGNIZE THE PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF THE STATE DEPT'S OVERSEAS PROGRAM. HERE IS HOW THE GUARD POSTS WILL BREAK DOWN:

SAIGON

(A) CHANCERY AND COMPUND AREA.

THREE (3) 24-HOUR GUARD POSTS.

THREE (3) 12-HOUR GUARD POSTS.

ONE (1) SERGEANTV-OF-THE-GUARD POST.

(B) USAID

THREE (3) 12-HOUR POSTS AT 4 INSTALLATIONS.

(C) USIS

ELIMINATION OF THE ONE 24-HOUR POST.

(D) DAO

ONE (1) 12-HOUR POST.

(E) AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

TWO (2) 24-HOUR POSTS (ONE EXTERIOR AND ONE COMMUNICATIVONS WATCH).

(F) PERSONAL SECURITY UNIT (PSU).

REMAIN AS IS (EIGHT).

TO ACCOMPLISH THE ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING ARE NEEDED:

36 WATCHSTANDERS

4 GUARD SERGEANTS

4 SECTION GUARDS

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2 CLERKS

1 ANOIC

1 NCOIC

1 OIC

8 PSU

TOTAL: 57

3. AT THE CONGENS, THE CURRENT 5-MAN DETACHMENTS AT BIEN HOA, NHA TRANG AND DA NANG SHOULD REMAIN. IN ADDITION WE BELIEVE, DUE TO THREAT SITUATIONV, THAT THE CONGEN AT CAN THO ALSO BE PROVIDED A 5-MAN DETACHMENT TO PROVIDE ONE 24-HOUR GUARD POST. THE CAN THO UNIT COULD BE DRAWN FROM MSGS CURRENTLY IN COMPANY "E".

4. ON-HAND MSG ASSETS WILL PERMIT ADOPTION OF THE ABOVE WITH ONLY NORMAL SCHEDULED REPLACEMENTS. TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETION IS JULY 1, 1974. EXTERIOR GUARD PLATOON WILL BE DETACHED AT CONVENIENCE OF HQMC, FOLLOWED BY HEADQUARTERS SECTION AFTER ALL DEACTIVATION REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET.

5. PLEASE INFORM HQMC OF ABOVE; MAJOR BERGEN WILL BE FORWARDING REQUESTS FOR ORDERS AND DETAILS OF POSTS.
MARTIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL SECURITY, SECURITY GUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON05197
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740094-0278
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740423/aaaaaufp.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUL 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <08-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARINE SECURITY GUARDS, VIETNAM FOR A/SY/FO FROM RSO
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AFSP, VS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005